



Fermanagh & Omagh  
District Council  
Comhairle Ceantair  
Fhear Manach agus na hÓmaí

**Screening Matrix.**

**Statement of Intent.** The Council intends to screen its policies, in accordance with Paragraphs 5 and 6 of the Equality Scheme, to determine which would require a fuller equality analysis in the form of an impact assessment

## Part 1: Policy Scoping

The first stage of the screening process involves scoping the policy or policy area. The purpose of policy scoping is to help prepare the background and context and set out the aims and objectives for the policy being screened. At this stage, scoping the policy will help identify potential constraints as well as opportunities and will help the policy maker work through the screening process on a step by step basis.

You should remember that the Section 75 statutory duties apply to internal policies (relating to people who work for the authority), as well as external policies (relating to those who are, or could be, served by the authority).

### Information about the policy

**Name of the policy or policy area:**

**Protocol for Responding to the Accumulation of Materials Intended for Bonfires on Council Property**

**Is this an existing, revised or a new policy/policy area?**

Existing	Revised	New
		X

### Brief Description

This protocol is to assist the Council to comply with its duties under the HSW Order and control risk to members of the public accessing Council property.

**What is it trying to achieve? (intended aims and outcomes)**

**The aims of the policy are:**

The Council recognise that bonfires are seen as an expression of cultural identity within communities and is committed to working with Communities in order to find and agree alternative and safe methods of cultural expression.

**Are there any Section 75 categories which might be expected to benefit from the intended policy?**

YES	NO	N/A
		X

**If YES, explain how.**

**Who initiated or wrote the policy?**

Director of Community, Health and Leisure and the Head of Community Services.

**Who owns and who implements each element of the policy?**

Director of Community, Health and Leisure will have overall responsibility for the effective implementation of the Policy.

The Head of Community Services will have operational responsibility for the effective implementation of the Policy.

The Director of Environment and Place will have responsibility in relation to the safe removal of materials.

**Implementation factors**

**Are there any factors which could contribute to/detract from the intended aim/outcome of the policy/decision?**

YES	NO	N/A
X		

**If YES, are they**

**Financial:**

The Policy will operate within available Council resources.

**Legislative:**

Health and Safety at Work (NI) Order 1978 (HSW Order) and associated Health and Safety Regulations. The Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act (Northern Ireland) 2011

**Other, please specify:**

N/A

**Main stakeholders affected**

**Who are the internal and external stakeholders (actual or potential) that the policy will impact upon?**

**Service users:** Residents within the district

**Other public sector organisations:** Northern Ireland Fire Service, The Police Service of Northern Ireland.

**Voluntary/community/trade unions:**

**Other, please specify:**

Contractors undertaking removal of materials

**Other policies with a bearing on this policy**

**What are they and who owns them?**

Corporate Plan

**Available evidence**

Evidence to help inform the screening process may take many forms. Public authorities should ensure that their screening decision is informed by relevant data.

What evidence/information (both qualitative and quantitative) have you gathered to inform this policy? Specify details for relevant Section 75 categories.

<b>Section 75 Category</b>	<b>Details of Evidence/Information</b>
<b>Religious Belief</b>	64.23% belong to or were brought up in the Catholic religion and 33.08% belong to or were brought up in a 'Protestant and Other Christian (including Christian related)' religion
<b>Political Opinion</b>	<p>The political opinion of the Council's elected members is as follows:</p> <p>Sinn Féin      17 Seats  UUP                9 Seats  SDLP              8  DUP                5  Independent    1</p> <p>This breakdown is taken as an approximate representation of political opinion among people within the Fermanagh and Omagh District Council area.</p>
<b>Race</b>	<p>On Census day 2011, 13.4% of the population of Fermanagh and Omagh was not born in Northern Ireland.</p> <p>0.84% were from an ethnic minority population and the remaining 99.16% were white (including Irish Traveller).</p> <p>To date Council has received no requests for signage in a minority ethnic language.</p>
<b>Age</b>	<p>Below is the age profile of the Fermanagh and Omagh District Council area:</p> <p>0 – 15 yrs: 24,808  16 – 39 yrs: 35,897  40 – 64 yrs: 36,517  65 – 84 yrs: 13,972  85+ yrs: 1,967</p>
<b>Marital Status</b>	<p>On Census Day 2011 the marital status profile of the Fermanagh and Omagh District Council area was:</p> <p>Single (never married or never registered a same-sex civil</p>

	<p>partnership)- Aged 16+ yrs: 31,598</p> <p>Married- Aged 16+ yrs: 44,296</p> <p>In a registered same-sex civil partnership - Aged 16+ yrs: 48</p> <p>Separated (but still legally married or still legally in a same-sex civil partnership)- Aged 16+ yrs: 2,851</p> <p>Divorced or formerly in a same-sex civil partnership which is now legally dissolved - Aged 16+ yrs: 3,573</p> <p>Widowed or surviving partner from a same-sex civil partnership - Aged 16+ years: 5,987</p>
<p><b>Gender</b></p>	<p>On Census Day 2011 the gender breakdown of the Fermanagh and Omagh District Council area was:</p> <p>Males: 56,649 (50.06%)      Females: 56,512 (49.94%)</p>
<p><b>Disability</b></p>	<p>20.75% of residents in the Fermanagh and Omagh District Council area have a long term health problem or disability, split as follows:</p> <p>Long-term health problem or disability: Day-to-day activities limited a lot: 13, 304</p> <p>Long-term health problem or disability: Day-to-day activities limited a little: 10, 178</p> <p>Long-term health problem or disability: Day-to-day activities not limited: 89, 679</p>
<p><b>Dependants</b></p>	<p>Families in households - No dependent children:14,962</p> <p>Families in households - One dependent child:5,571</p> <p>Families in households - Two dependent children:5,068</p> <p>Families in households - Three or more dependent children:3,871</p>

**Qualitative Evidence**

“Burning Issues” – a report commissioned by Derry City Council to undertake a community based assessment of the issues and an audit of good practice.

EQIA’s conducted by Coleraine and Moyle District Councils

**Needs, experiences and priorities**

Taking into account the information referred to above, what are the different needs, experiences and priorities of each of the following categories, in relation to the particular policy/decision? Specify details for each of the Section 75 categories

<b>Section 75 Category</b>	<b>Details of Needs/Experiences/Priorities</b>
Religious Belief	Members of both the Protestant and Catholic communities may perceive the proposed option as a threat to their culture and traditional celebrations.
Political Opinion	Members of both the Unionist and Nationalist communities may perceive the proposed option as a threat to their culture and traditional celebrations
Race	There is no qualitative or quantitative data to suggest that this policy would have an adverse impact on this group.
Disability	There is no qualitative or quantitative data to suggest that this policy would have an adverse impact on this group.
Age	Young people are more involved in bonfires (gathering materials and building is an activity often identified as a job for young males aged10-14) than the older age ranges. Elderly people, particularly those living on their own, may feel particularly vulnerable from perceived anti-social behaviour incidents.
Marital Status	There is no qualitative or quantitative data to suggest that this policy would have an adverse impact on this group.

Section 75 Category	Details of Needs/Experiences/Priorities
Sexual Orientation	There is no qualitative or quantitative data to suggest that this policy would have an adverse impact on this group.
Gender	There is no qualitative or quantitative data to suggest that this policy would have an adverse impact on this group.
Dependents	There is no qualitative or quantitative data to suggest that this policy would have an adverse impact on this group.

## Part 2: Screening Questions

### Introduction

1. If the conclusion is **none** in respect of all of the Section 75 categories, then you may decide to screen the policy out. If a policy is 'screened out', you should give details of the reasons for the decision taken.
2. If the conclusion is **major** in respect of one or more of the Section 75 categories, then consideration should be given to subjecting the policy to an EQIA.
3. If the conclusion is **minor** in respect of one or more of the Section 75 categories, then consideration should still be given to proceeding with an EQIA, or to measures to mitigate the adverse impact; or an alternative policy.

### In favour of a 'major' impact

- a) The policy is significant in terms of its strategic importance;
- b) Potential equality impacts are unknown, because, for example, there is insufficient data upon which to make an assessment or because they are complex, and hence it would be appropriate to conduct an EQIA;
- c) Potential equality and/or good relations impacts are likely to be adverse or are likely to be experienced disproportionately by groups of people including those who are marginalised or disadvantaged;
- d) Further assessment offers a valuable way to examine the evidence and develop recommendations in respect of a policy about which there are concerns among affected individuals and representative groups, for example in respect of multiple identities;
- e) The policy is likely to be challenged by way of judicial review;
- f) The policy is significant in terms of expenditure.

**In favour of 'minor' impact**

- a) The policy is not unlawfully discriminatory and any residual potential impacts on people are judged to be negligible;
- b) The policy, or certain proposals within it, are potentially unlawfully discriminatory, but this possibility can readily and easily be eliminated by making appropriate changes to the policy or by adopting appropriate mitigating measures;
- c) Any asymmetrical equality impacts caused by the policy are intentional because they are specifically designed to promote equality of opportunity for particular groups of disadvantaged people;
- d) By amending the policy there are better opportunities to better promote equality of opportunity and/or good relations.

**In favour of none**

- a) The policy has no relevance to equality of opportunity or good relations.
- b) The policy is purely technical in nature and will have no bearing in terms of its likely impact on equality of opportunity or good relations for people within the equality and good relations categories.

Taking into account the earlier evidence, consider and comment on the likely impact on equality of opportunity / good relations for those affected by this policy, by applying the following screening questions and the impact on the group i.e. minor, major or none.

**Screening questions**

<b>1 What is the likely impact on equality of opportunity for those affected by this policy, for each of the Section 75 grounds? Minor/Major/None</b>		
<b>Section 75 Category</b>	<b>Details of Policy Impact</b>	<b>Level of Impact? Minor/Major/None</b>
<b>Religious belief</b>	No bonfires will be held on Council Property – mitigation will be put in place.	Minor
<b>Political opinion</b>	No bonfires will be held on Council Property – mitigation will be put in place.	Minor
<b>Racial / ethnic group</b>		None
<b>Age</b>	No bonfires will be held on Council Property – mitigation will be put in place.	Minor
<b>Marital status</b>		None
<b>Sexual orientation</b>		None
<b>Men and women generally</b>		None
<b>Disability</b>		None
<b>Dependants</b>		None

<b>2 Are there opportunities to better promote equality of opportunity for people within any of the Section 75 categories?</b>		
<b>Section 75 Category</b>	<b>If Yes, provide details</b>	<b>If No, provide reasons</b>
<b>Religious belief</b>	The Council will work with communities to increase awareness and understanding around the risk associated with bonfires and support alternative activities at a local level	
<b>Political opinion</b>	The Council will work with communities to increase awareness and understanding around the risk associated with bonfires and support alternative activities at a local level	
<b>Racial / ethnic group</b>		There is no data to indicate that this policy will have an adverse impact on this group.
<b>Age</b>	The Council will work with communities to increase awareness and understanding around the risk associated with bonfires and support alternative activities at a local level	
<b>Marital status</b>		There is no data to indicate that this policy will have an adverse impact on this group.
<b>Sexual orientation</b>		There is no data to indicate that this policy will have an adverse impact on this group.
<b>Men and women generally</b>		There is no data to indicate that this policy will have an adverse impact on this group.
<b>Disability</b>		There is no data to indicate that this policy will have an adverse impact on this group.
<b>Dependants</b>		There is no data to indicate that this policy will have an adverse impact on this group.

<b>3 To what extent is the policy likely to impact on good relations between people of different religious belief, political opinion or racial group? Minor/Major/None</b>		
<b>Good Relations Category</b>	<b>Details of policy impact</b>	<b>Level of impact Minor/Major/None</b>
<b>Religious belief</b>	Members of both the Protestant and Catholic communities may perceive the proposed option as a threat to their culture and traditional celebrations	Major
<b>Political opinion</b>	Members of both the Unionist and Nationalist communities may perceive the proposed option as a threat to their culture and traditional celebrations	Major
<b>Racial group</b>		None

<b>4 Are there opportunities to better promote good relations between people of different religious belief, political opinion or racial group?</b>		
<b>Good relations category</b>	<b>If Yes, provide details</b>	<b>If No, provide reasons</b>
Religious Belief Political Opinion Race	The Council will work with communities to increase awareness and understanding around the risk associated with bonfires and support alternative activities at a local level	

## Additional considerations

### Multiple identity

Generally speaking, people can fall into more than one Section 75 category. Taking this into consideration, are there any potential impacts of the policy/decision on people with multiple identities?

(For example; disabled minority ethnic people; disabled women; young Protestant men; and young lesbians, gay and bisexual people).

N/A

Provide details of data on the impact of the policy on people with multiple identities. Specify relevant Section 75 categories concerned.

N/A

**5. Is there an opportunity to better promote positive attitudes towards people with disabilities by altering the policy or working with others in government or the wider community? Yes /No.**

**6. Is there an opportunity to encourage people with disabilities to participate in public life by altering the policy or working with others in government or the wider community? Yes /No.**

## Part 3: Screening Decision

In light of your answers to the previous questions, do you feel that the policy should: (please indicate one):

- 1. Not be subject to an EQIA (with no mitigating measures required)**
- 2. Not be subject to an EQIA (with mitigating measures /alternative policies)**
- 3. Not be subject to an EQIA at this time**
- 4. Be subject to an EQIA**

**Option 1:**

**The policy should not be subject to an EQIA.**

**If 1. or 2. (i.e. not be subject to an EQIA), please provide details of the reasons why:**

The Council will work with communities to increase awareness and understanding around the risk associated with bonfires and support alternative activities at a local level.

**If 2. (i.e. not be subject to an EQIA), in what ways can identified adverse impacts attaching to the policy be mitigated or an alternative policy be introduced?**

**In light of these revisions, is there a need to re-screen the revised/alternative policy at a future date? YES / NO**

**If 3. or 4. (i.e. to conduct an EQIA), please provide details of the reasons:**

**Timetabling and Prioritising EQIA**

**If 3. or 4., is the policy affected by timetables established by other relevant public authorities? YES / NO**

**If YES, please provide details:**

**Please answer the following questions to determine priority for timetabling the EQIA. On a scale of 1-3, with 1 being the lowest priority and 3 being the highest, assess the policy in terms of its priority for EQIA.**

Priority criterion	Rating (1-3)
Effect on equality of opportunity and good relations	
Social need	
Effect on people’s daily lives	
Relevance to a public authority’s functions	

Note: The Total Rating Score should be used to prioritise the policy in rank order with other policies screened in for EQIA. This list of priorities will assist you in timetabling the EQIA. Details of your EQIA timetable should be included in the quarterly Section 75 report.

Proposed date for commencing EQIA: \_\_\_\_\_

**Any further comments on the screening process and any subsequent actions?**

The control of bonfires on Council property will be continuously reviewed by the Councils Senior Management Team who will consider appropriate responses in line with changing circumstances with the aim of ensuring public safety on Council premises.

## **Part 4: Monitoring**

**Effective monitoring will help identify any future adverse impacts arising from the policy which may lead you to conduct an EQIA, as well as help with future planning and policy development. You should consider the guidance contained in the Commission's Monitoring Guidance for Use by Public Authorities (July 2007). The Commission recommends that where the policy has been amended or an alternative policy introduced, then you should monitor more broadly than for adverse impact (See Benefits, P.9-10, paras 2.13 – 2.20 of the Monitoring Guidance).**

**Please detail proposed monitoring arrangements below:**

The control of bonfires on Council property will be continuously reviewed by the Councils Senior Management Team who will consider appropriate responses in line with changing circumstances with the aim of ensuring public safety on Council premises.

Where there is an indication of adverse impact then the policy will be reviewed more frequently and necessary adjustments will be made.

Monitoring arrangements will be put in place and action taken where indicates potential adverse effects.

## Part 5: Approval and Authorisation

Screened by:	Position/Job Title	Date
	Director of Community, Health and Leisure	
	Head of Community Services	
Approved by:		
	Chief Executive	